

CHEARSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT
7.30PM

PRESENT

Councillors: Karen Vear (**KV**), Angela Gray (**AG**), Keith Turnbull (**KT**), John Lewis (**JL**), Paul Bown (**PAB**), Nic Brown (**NB**) – from 8.30pm.

Responsible Finance Officer: Robert Parkes (**RP**)

Parish Clerk: Helen Spurgeon

Officers: John Howard (**JH**), Anthony Adams (**AA**), David Impey (**DI**)

Parishioners: There were 4 Parishioners

PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

Jey and his family were presented with a gift from Chearsley to thank them for everything they put into the village shop over the years.

1. APOLOGIES

Ian Houseman (**IH**).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests declared.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2023 MINUTES

The Minutes were **agreed** as a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- **Blocked drains on Lower Green Lane and Dark Lane.** **NB** has taken photographs today and will email Colin Woolford as the issue is not fixed.
- **Hedge on footpath 9 to Notley between the farm track and the railway in need of trimming.** No update from Mike Heybrook following email from Clerk. **ACTION: Clerk to email Rose Dale.**
- **Flagpole.** Quote from Caloo to replace the flagpole was high at £800. Online price is around £300-400. **NB** is investigating.
- **CCTV in village.** The results of the survey are that 72% of residents are in favour of CCTV. **KT** is booked on a CCTV training course at BALC.
- **Planning pre-application advice.** **ACTION: PAB to draft a guidance note for publication.**
- **Local Plan for Bucks – Infrastructure Baseline.** **ACTION: NB and JL to work on and circulate to councillors.** Deadline 31st March.
- **Gate on the donkey path in need of repair.** **ACTION: AA to speak to Terry.**
- **Bucks Council's position on 'the Arc'.** **NB** has written to Martin Tett on this subject and is meeting him next week.

5. PLANNING

- **23/00421/ALB – Longhouse, Church Lane, Chearsley HP18 0DH**
NO OBJECTIONS were submitted to Bucks Council.
- **23/00703/APP - Grove Farm, Chearsley Road, Long Crendon**
Highways have already stated that they do not see an issue with additional traffic.
The PC will put forward comments.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

An email was received from a resident regarding the precept. The PC has not increased the precept this year. **ACTION: NB to respond by email.**

7. FINANCE

The monthly finance report has been circulated to councillors:

Payments

There are only two unplanned payments in the month of February:

- Bucks Council, (dog bins) £579
- A Stratford, (online survey) £99

The balance at the bank, at the end of the month, was £87,734.

Year-end preparation

A proforma year-end report has been circulated to the Council, using, where appropriate, the latest 2023 figures available. The purpose in distributing this report, in this form, is to obtain the Council's agreement to the format, not the figures. If the format is acceptable, this will form the basis of the report prepared at the year-end to accompany the AGAR submission.

JE Accountants have already agreed to act as Internal Auditor, and PKF were appointed at a national level as External Auditors, in both cases, no change from previous years.

Reserves have been set aside for kerbing and the horse chestnut island work. Councillors agreed for the accounts to go for internal audit at the start of April. It was agreed that a Coronation mug would be gifted to children in the village.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ATTENDING MEETINGS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

JL attended a meeting on the proposed freight exclusion zone with Graham Hillary and 2 councillors from Waddesdon who support the proposal. The next step is to brief Steve Broadbent, the cabinet member for transport. If this is successful there will then be a public consultation.

9. SUB-COMMITTEE DECISIONS FOR RATIFICATION

No volunteers came forward to lead a working group on kerbing.

10. OFFICERS' REPORTS

- **DI** thanked everyone for their support in recruiting volunteers for Chearsley Speedwatch. It is hoped that sessions can commence in April. **DI** will discuss his ideas for traffic calming proposals with **NB** and circulate to the PC. **DI** spoke about the idea of a motion activated CCTV camera to mount on his fence to record traffic

on Winchendon Road. **KT** will ask about this at the BALC training session to clarify the legal position.

- **JH** reported the Historical Society met on Thursday. The meeting was very well attended. The next meeting will be in June.
- **AA** reported that he has contacted Rob Mole and started the dialogue about stiles going down to Chearsley Furze.

11. TREE AND VERGE MATTERS

The verges are in a poor state. **ACTION: NB to investigate the suggestion of square wooden posts to protect verges, obtain estimates and circulate.**

12. CHEARSLEY VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

Caloo will potentially be starting work on the new playground on 3rd April. **NB** thanked **KT** for all his work on this project. There is a shortage of storage space in the village hall. This will need to be discussed offline.

13. CHEARSLEY CARBON NEUTRAL GROUP UPDATE

To be removed as regular agenda item.

14. PARISHIONERS QUESTION TIME

Plans for the King's Coronation weekend were discussed:

Church concert – Friday 5th May evening

Singer at The Bell – Saturday evening

Church service – Sunday 11am

Street Party - Sunday at 12.30pm

Pig roast at The Bell – Sunday from 6pm

Big breakfast at The Bell – Monday morning

Churchyard clear out – Monday from 2pm

The Church estimate they will be spending £850 to £900 on fireworks, wine for the concert, bunting, flowers and extras.

It was agreed to donate £500 to the Church towards these costs and £500 to The Bell for providing food for the street party.

It was agreed to order 80 Coronation mugs for children aged 12 and under in the village.

KT suggested that the PC may want to consider a Coronation memorial such as a bench.

15. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- April meeting agenda. **ACTION: Clerk to include CCTV and Coronation.**
- PC annual dinner. **ACTION: KV to organise date.**

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING in Chearsley Village Hall

- Monday 17th April at 7.30pm